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350-unit luxury apartment complex planned near The Domain

BUSINESS By Gary Dinges - American-Statesman Staff







The Lenox Ridge apartments will have a number of high-end amenities including a swimming pool.

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Highlights

Amenities at Lenox Ridge will include a swimming pool and a 1,600-square-foot community work studio.

Oden Hughes said it hopes the community work studio will help lure employees of nearby tech firms.

A local developer is building a 350-unit luxury apartment community near The Domain in North Austin.

Oden Hughes said this week that it has started construction on the 10-acre Lenox Ridge complex at the southeast corner of North MoPac Boulevard (Loop 1) and Scofield Ridge Parkway. Completion is expected in early 2019.

The Domain and surrounding areas have seen considerable development in recent years, including the addition of Domain Northside, the mixed-use project's third – and final – phase of shops and restaurants. Several office buildings are under construction in the area, as well, including one that has already been 100 percent pre-leased by Indeed.

Amenities at Lenox Ridge will include a swimming pool and a 1,600-square-foot community work studio featuring WiFi, printers, meeting spaces, a lounge and a hospitality bar.

Oden Hughes said it hopes the community work studio will help convince employees of nearby tech firms to move to the complex. Figures cited by the developer show that 9 percent of Austinites work from home – nearly double the national average.

"We think this unique community is a perfect fit for this dynamic area," Howell Beaver, Oden Hughes' vice president of development, said in a written statement. "Lenox Ridge will allow young professionals to have the convenient, on-site work space they need without having to pay more for a larger apartment."

To save money, Oden Hughes said it plans to build the complex using primarily light-gauge steel instead of lumber, with BlackSwan Steel fabricating about 80 percent of the framing for the four-story apartment buildings at its Houston facility and then trucking it to Austin for crews to assemble.

"Rising lumber prices have made light-gauge steel more appealing price-wise," Oden Hughes construction president Eric Taylor. "We expect that it also will allow us to build more efficiently and result in a better product due to its precision, strength and durability."

Since its founding in 2010, Oden Hughes has developed a number of high-end apartment complexes in the Austin area and throughout Texas.



About the Author



GARY DINGES Gary Dinges covers bars/restaurants, movies, music, radio and TV for the Austin American-Statesman.







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